Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY ARA:BR:AFWATSON:LK APPROVED BY ARA:WGBOWDLER S/S: REWOODS D:MSPENDLETON

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, BR SUBJECT:LETTER FROM SECRETARY TO FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA

- 1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY TO FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA.
- 2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR ANTONIO: BOB INGERSOLL AND BILL ROGERS REPORTED TO ME ON THE RESULTS OF THE QUITO CONFERENCE BEFORE I DEPARTED FOR THE FAR EAST. REFLECTING ON THE INCONCLUSIVE OUTCOME, I HAVE BEEN WONDERING WHAT IMPACT IT WILL HAVE ON CONSIDERATION OF THE CUBAN QUESTION AT BUENOS AIRES.
- 3. YOU AND I WERE AMONG THE FEW THAT CONSIDERED PRESSING THE LIFTING OF OAS SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBA IN A PUBLIC FORUM TO BE UNWISE AT THIS STAGE. OUR ORIGINAL TIME TABLE OF CONSIDERATION AT BUENOS AIRES IN AN INFORMAL, CLOSED DOOR SESSION WHERE A CONSENSUS MIGHT HAVE BEEN REACHED ON HOW TO PROCEED WOULD HAVE BEEN MUCH BETTER. MY IMPRESSION IS THAT QUITO MAY MAKE MORE DIFFICULT ARRIVING AT A CONSENSUS BECAUSE OF THE PUBLIC POSITION WHICH GOVERNMENTS WERE FORCED TO TAKE.

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4. I WOULD BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN HAVING YOUR THOUGHTS ON WHERE THE QUITO CONFERENCE LEAVES US IN TERMS OF HOW THE CUBAN QUESTION SHOULD BE HANDLED. I ASSUME THAT

THE SUBJECT WILL BE RAISED AT BUENOS AIRES. I HAVE NO INDICATION WHETHER OUR ARGENTINE COLLEAGUE WILL PROCEED WITH THE UNDERSTANDING REACHED AT OUR MEETING IN WASHINGTON LAST APRIL WITH RESPECT TO DETERMINING WHETHER THERE IS A CONSENSUS ON ASKING CUBA TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO BUENOS AIRES. PERHAPS YOU HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH FOREIGN MINISTER VIGNES ON THIS ASPECT. IN ANY EVENT, ANTONIO, I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ASSESSMENT OF WHERE WE GO FROM HERE ON THE CUBAN QUESTION, WHETHER AT BUENOS AIRES OR IN SOME OTHER FORUM.

5. I REGRET THAT MY SCHEDULE DID NOT PERMIT ME TO BE WITH YOU IN QUITO. I HOPE WE SHALL BE TOGETHER IN BRASILIA IN JANUARY. WARMEST REGARDS AND BEST WISHES, HENRY. END TEXT. INGERSOLL

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To: BRASILIA

Type: TE

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